

What is claimed is:

1 1. A computer system, comprising:

2 a first data storage unit storing a first program and a second program;

3 a second data storage unit storing a product key of the first program according to the second

4 program, the product key accommodating an installation of the first program; and

5 a third program stored in the first data storage unit for reinstalling the first program, the third
6 program reading the product key of the first program stored in the second data storage unit, when
a product key from the third program and the product key stored in the second data storage unit are
identical.

2 2. The computer system according to claim 1, with the first program being an operating
system controlling the operation of the computer system.

3 3. The computer system according to claim 1, with the first data storage unit comprising:

2 a first unit storing the first program; and

3 a second unit storing the third program.

1 4. The computer system according to claim 3, with the second program being stored in the
2 first unit or the second unit.

1 5. The computer system according to claim 3, with the second unit being a re-writable
2 magnetic disk storage device or an optical storage device.

1 6. The computer system according to claim 1, with information on the product key of the
2 first program being a bar code-readable signal.

1 7. The computer system according to claim 1, with the third program being provided with
2 an information input window to allow a user to directly input the product key, when a product key
3 from the third program and the product key stored in the second data storage unit being not identical
4 with each other.

1 8. The computer system according to claim 1, further comprising an extended
2 complementary metal-oxide semiconductor random-access memory, the second data storage unit
3 being accommodated in the extended complementary metal-oxide semiconductor random-access
4 memory.

1 9. The computer system according to claim 8, with the extended complementary metal-oxide
2 semiconductor random-access memory having an auxiliary power source to preserve the stored
3 information when the computer system is off.

1 10. The computer system according to claim 1, with the second program being installed in
2 a hard disk drive storing the first program and application programs.

1 11. The computer system according to claim 1, with the second program being erased when
2 the product key is stored in the second data storage unit to prevent the product key of the first
3 program from being reentered.

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12. A method for storing a product key of an operating system program, comprising the steps
of:

reading the product key comprised of a bar code by a bar code reader, corresponding to an
installation process of the operating system program, the operating system program for controlling
the operations of a computer system, the computer system comprising a central processing unit, a
main memory, a basic input-output system read only memory, an auxiliary memory storing therein
information set up by the basic input-output system read only memory, using the operating system
program having the product key; and

storing the product key in a product key storage by activating a product key storage program.

13. The method according to claim 12, with the product key storage being accommodated

- 2 in an extended complementary metal-oxide semiconductor random-access memory.
- 1 14. The method according to claim 12, with the product key storage program being installed
- 2 in a hard disk drive storing the operating system program and application programs therein.
- 1 15. A method, comprising the steps of:
- 2 initiating an initial install of a first program on a first data storage unit on a computer system;
- 3 inputting a product key of the first program, the product key being used for certifying an
- 4 authenticity of the first program and accommodating an installation of the first program on the
- 5 computer system;
- 6 writing the product key onto a second data storage unit of the computer system;
- 7 installing the remainder of the first program after writing the product key;
- 8 initiating a reinstallation of the first program on the computer system;
- 9 reading the product key from the second data storage unit;
- 10 comparing the product key read from the second data storage unit with the product key of
- 11 the first program;
- 12 inputting the product key into a product key input window of the first program when the
- 13 product keys are compared to be identical; and
- 14 continuing to complete the reinstallation of the first program after the product key is inputted
- 15 into the product key input window.

- 1 16. The method according to claim 15, with the step of inputting the product key being
2 through a bar code reader from an installation media of the first program.
- 1 17. The method according to claim 15, with the step of storing the product key in the second
2 data storage unit being controlled by a second program, the second program being erased after the
3 step of storing the product key to prevent the product key of the first program from being reentered.
- 1 18. The method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of initiating a checksum
of the specific regions of the second data storage unit having the product key to ascertain whether
the read product key is correct.
- 1 19. The method according to claim 15, with the step of comparing having the product key
of the first program obtained from a third program accommodating the reinstallation of the first
program.
- 1 20. The method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of storing the product key
2 in a specific region of the first data storage unit and the first program continuing to install on the
3 computer system before the step of writing the product key onto a second data storage unit, the
4 product key being written from the product key stored on the first data storage unit.

1 21. The method according to claim 15, with the first program being an operating system
2 controlling the operation of the computer system.

1 22. The method according to claim 15, with the step of storing the product key in the first
2 data storage unit being controlled by a second program, the second program being erased after the
3 step of storing the product key to prevent the product key of the first program from being reentered,
4 the step of comparing having the product key of the first program obtained from a third program
 accommodating the reinstallation of the first program.

1 23. The method according to claim 22, with the first data storage unit comprising:
2 a first unit storing the first program; and
3 a second unit storing the third program.

1 24. The method according to claim 23, with the second program being stored in the first
2 unit or the second unit.

1 25. The method according to claim 23, with the second unit being a re-writable magnetic
2 disk storage device or an optical storage device.

1 26. The method according to claim 23, with the second program being installed in a hard
2 disk drive storing the first program and application programs.

1 27. The method according to claim 23, with the third program being provided with the
2 information input window to allow a user to directly input the product key, when the product key
3 from the third program and the product key stored in the second data storage unit being not identical
4 with each other.

2 28. The method according to claim 15, with the second data storage unit being
accommodated in the extended complementary metal-oxide semiconductor random-access memory
having a backup power source.